

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB2004/003480

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F2/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, X	WO 2004/058106 A (ARBOR SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC; FOGARTY, THOMAS, J; DREWS, MICHAEL,) 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15) paragraph '0070! - paragraph '0075! paragraph '0121! claim 70 figures 11-15	1, 6, 7, 9-12
A	US 5 571 175 A (VANNEY ET AL) 5 November 1996 (1996-11-05) column 3, line 59 - column 4, line 5 column 8, line 17 - line 20	1-13
P, A	US 6 652 540 B1 (COLE DAVID H ET AL) 25 November 2003 (2003-11-25) column 4, line 66 - column 13, line 3 ----- -/--	1-13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mary, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/003480

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CH 608 368 A5 (SULZER AG) 15 January 1979 (1979-01-15) column 1, line 15 - column 2, line 67 -----	1-13
A	US 5 123 918 A (PERRIER ET AL) 23 June 1992 (1992-06-23) column 8, line 22 - column 13, line 5 -----	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2004/003480

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 14
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/003480

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2004058106	A	15-07-2004	US 2004122516 A1	24-06-2004
			WO 2004058106 A2	15-07-2004
			US 2004122514 A1	24-06-2004
US 5571175	A	05-11-1996	AU 6379796 A	30-12-1996
			WO 9640009 A1	19-12-1996
			US 5843179 A	01-12-1998
			ZA 9604886 A	11-02-1997
US 6652540	B1	25-11-2003	US 6352543 B1	05-03-2002
			AU 5740901 A	12-11-2001
			CA 2387618 A1	28-11-2001
			EP 1284660 A1	26-02-2003
			JP 2003533251 T	11-11-2003
			WO 0182803 A1	08-11-2001
			US 2002103495 A1	01-08-2002
			US 2004034377 A1	19-02-2004
			US 2004116945 A1	17-06-2004
			US 6719768 B1	13-04-2004
			US 2005021059 A1	27-01-2005
			US 6802847 B1	12-10-2004
			AU 755190 B2	05-12-2002
			AU 2674699 A	30-08-1999
			CA 2320956 A1	19-08-1999
			EP 1054641 A1	29-11-2000
			JP 2002502663 T	29-01-2002
			US 2003158573 A1	21-08-2003
			WO 9940868 A1	19-08-1999
			US 2002077566 A1	20-06-2002
			US 2002161424 A1	31-10-2002
			US 2001041902 A1	15-11-2001
			US 2002144696 A1	10-10-2002
			US 2004077987 A1	22-04-2004
			US 2004168691 A1	02-09-2004
			US 2004167444 A1	26-08-2004
			US 2001025643 A1	04-10-2001
CH 608368	A5	15-01-1979	NONE	
US 5123918	A	23-06-1992	FR 2642960 A1	17-08-1990
			AT 91613 T	15-08-1993
			DE 69002254 D1	26-08-1993
			DE 69002254 T2	03-02-1994
			DE 383676 T1	07-02-1991
			EP 0383676 A1	22-08-1990
			ES 2017595 T3	01-01-1994
			JP 1883541 C	10-11-1994
			JP 3103253 A	30-04-1991
			JP 6004081 B	19-01-1994